

Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee

March 2, 2015

Item	Topic	Lead	Discussion / Conclusions
1.	Call to Order	Greg Andruskevich	<p>Call to Order: 7:03pm</p> <p>January minutes approved.</p> <p>Attendees: Pam Anderson, Greg Andruskevich, Dick Gillespie, Ed Moran, Peter Testa, Nick Caggiano, Nick Serpa, Brian Edwards, Dave Silva</p> <p>Guests: Sara Marchant: Director Community Development, JoAnne Del Greco: Elm St. Middle School, Brian Cullen: Millyard BPR</p> <p>Presentations/Public comment:</p> <p>JoAnne Del Greco: Elm St. Middle School. As part of an eighth grade research project with a book writing contest at the end we propose a Literacy Walk in Mine Falls Park. Scope, 12 posts with Plexiglas containers to hold pages from the winning book cemented in the ground spaced 500-700 feet apart (approximately a mile and a half). Construction of the posts would be completed by JoAnne's husband with supervision by Elm St. shop teacher. All maintenance will be performed by JoAnne & her husband. Stories would be changed three times.</p> <p>Nick Serpa: Is the plan to make these permanent? <i>JoAnne: Yes.</i></p> <p>Nick Caggiano: What location in the park did you have in mind? <i>JoAnne: We are open to discuss what the committee feels would be best.</i> Brian Edwards state the orange trail is less used than most and this may make them less susceptible to vandals.</p> <p>Dick Gillespie: What is the targeted age group of the stories? <i>JoAnne: 8th grade reading level.</i></p> <p>Peter Testa & Dave Silva reiterated that MFP is a nature park & should be kept as such. The story posts may not blend well with the natural environment.</p> <p>Committee mentioned the following alternate locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heritage Rail trail - Fields Grove Park - Possibly only at MFP entrances outside the park itself.

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			<p>Brian Cullen: Millyard BPR. Wanted to inform the committee of a Bike/Pedal/Run Triathlon event proposed for May 3, 2015.</p> <p>Event scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cap at 300 participants <p><u>Bike:</u> Beginning with a controlled parade start, bikers will be escorted through Nashua's downtown Main Street heading north to Amherst and Broad Streets. Racers will follow Broad Street out of the City and into Hollis onto Depot Road to Route 111 easterly back into Nashua before a final turn to Conway Arena and Mill Pond. The bike leg is 15.1 miles.</p> <p><u>Paddle:</u> At Conway Arena bikers transition to boats. The 2.5 mile course crosses the pond and runs the length of the canal to the take out at the Millyard. There will be volunteers here to assist boaters.</p> <p><u>Run:</u> The run follows the unpaved canal tow path approximately 1.5 miles before circling back to Spine Road that leads back to the Millyard.</p> <p>Brian stated he would encourage as many participants as he could to join the committee at the April 25th trail day. Possibly 25-30 volunteers.</p> <p>A water stop for the run will be available, possibly at or near the soccer fields along spine road. This still hasn't been finalized.</p> <p>Dave Silva expressed concern for cleanup down trail from the water stop. <i>Brian: We will take care of all clean up after the event.</i></p> <p>Dick Gillespie has concerns regarding the boat take out area as this is a small area with a steep incline on the canal bank and deep water at the edge. <i>Brian: We are considering acquiring a temporary floating platform to assist paddlers with egress</i></p> <p>Dick Gillespie also inquired about liability & first aid. <i>Brian: The city would be listed as an additionally insured on their insurance policy and PrideStar EMS will be on hand for the duration of the event.</i></p> <p>Sara Marchant: Director Community Development. The Heritage Rail Trail to MFP connection project was awarded \$500,000.00 grant for construction of a pedestrian/Bicycle bridge into MFP over the canal at Gate City Fence on Ledge St. Sara</p>

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			<p>Stressed this project is still in the early planning stages but the goal is to get RFP bidding rolling by this summer for possible early fall 2016 construction. They can also try to include a kayak launch platform and additional fencing into the proposal.</p> <p>Dick Gillespie asked the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is the benefit to the park, is there any economic or tourist benefit? <i>Sara: This location will bring access to the park to an otherwise disconnected section of the inner city. The location gives park visitors better access to downtown Nashua and a small store in the neighborhood.</i> - Are Nashua Police aware of the project and is there any plan to increase patrols in the park? <i>Sara: Community Development has had discussions with Nashua Police who had no comments one way or the other regarding patrols or the project itself.</i> - How many estimated new visitors will this project add to the park, what kinds of impact studies have been completed? <i>The Mayor has repeatedly expressed concern about MFP becoming over used. Sara: No analysis has been done on this.</i> - How will motor vehicles be prevented from accessing the park? <i>Sara: Bollards can be installed at each end of the bridge, maybe a locking gate could be installed.</i> - Is there a stress level report for the area proposed? <i>Sara: I will email the report out to the committee.</i> <p>Greg Andruskevich stated he is 100% in favor of the project and will attend all public hearings to support completion.</p> <p>Dave Silva expressed disappointment the MFPAC was not included or contact in the earlier stages of the project. <i>Sara: I wasn't aware this committee existed otherwise you would have been included.</i></p> <p>Nick Caggiano and Dave Silva both stated this will be an impact to the committee with more work to be done cleaning the additional trash and debris that will be introduced in an already heavily littered area.</p>

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2.	Park/Rec.	Nick Caggiano	<p>Cell Tower Fund: Current balance: \$284,062.05. The merger of two cell providers will result in an overall loss of \$20,000-\$25,000 this year. After the new tower is built, the capacity will increase and the loss will be recouped quickly.</p> <p>T-Shirts: Trail day t-shirts have been ordered as well as the Gatehouse coloring project shirts, light blue again this year.</p> <p>Canal clean up: On Hold due to a shortage of manpower in the Parks & Rec department. Nick will be consumed with managing the red trail raised platform project, as well as the need to rebuild a playground in the city. The Mayor is creating a water management position who will oversee all bodies of water within the city. There is a meeting on March 24, 2015 with the Nashua River Watershed commission regarding area water management and clean up.</p> <p>Red trail raised platform: This will go out to bid in March 2015. The plan is to award the project in April 2015 and break ground in May 2015.</p> <p>Committee sweatshirts: No one can recall this being discussed. Majority of committee would opt for a rain jacket of some sort. Greg will visit the vendors to see what is available.</p> <p>Picnic Tables: Too much snow to address at this time.</p> <p>Cove sign: One of the large signs telling about Oxbow Lake has gone missing. Dave Silva stated he saw it leaning on the post at one point. Nick is going to search the area after the snow melts to see if he can locate it before deciding to purchase a replacement.</p>
3.	Chairman's Notes	Greg Andruskevich	<p>Committee By-Law review: This is tabled until April meeting. Nick Caggiano stated we should set time aside to discuss them since there hasn't been an update in some time.</p> <p>Oath of Office: We need to have this completed as soon as possible. By law the City Clerk needs this on file for every committee member.</p> <p>Mutt Mitt dispensers: Dave Silva volunteered to fill these going forward.</p>
4.	Old Business	All	N/A
5.	New Business	All	N/A

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6.	Other	All	N/A
	Adjournment	Greg Andruskevich	8:45 pm

JoAnne Del Greco presentation:

January 12, 2015

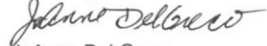
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request support for a literacy project that I am hoping to complete this spring. My proposal is to build a literacy walk in Nashua at Mine Falls. This walk will give the citizens of Nashua an opportunity to read student-created stories while getting exercise and fresh air.

I would like to construct the Literacy Walk in Mine Falls. The walk will be a series of posts that hold pages to a story enclosed in plexi glass holders on posts placed at even intervals along paths in Mine Falls. The posts will house the winning pages of an eighth grade book project in which students will write informational children's books based on research that they have done. The students will be researching and creating their books during the month of March and the winning books will be chosen by a group of middle school teachers during the month of April. I am hoping to have three winners that will each be displayed on the literacy walk for approximately eight weeks each.

I am hoping to have approximately twelve posts for the literacy walk. Each post will be spaced approximately 500 ft. - 700 ft apart. The literacy walk will be a little over a mile and a half. The posts will be constructed using 4 x4 x 6' pieces of wood. They will be buried with 8" x 24" sono tubes secured with concrete. Each post will have a slanted stand with a plexi glass encasement enclosed by a rubber seal and bracket that will have the ability to lock. The stories will be changed at least 3 times during the summer and the posts and plexi glass enclosures will be maintained by my husband and me. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,



JoAnne Del Greco
7/8th grade English Teacher
ELA Liaison
Elm Street Middle School



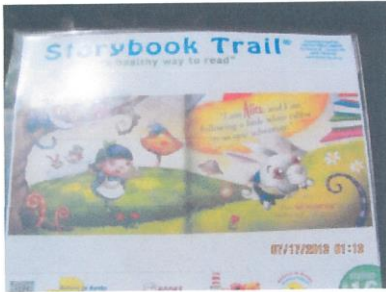
MINE FALLS PARK
NASHUA, NH

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Materials for literary walk posts

\$ 13.17	2 pieces each 4' x 4' x 5'	\$6.58 each	
\$ 16.47	2 pieces each 4' x 4' x 6'	\$8.23 each	\$ 8.23
\$ 6.28	2 pieces each 8" x 24"	\$3.14 each	\$ 3.14
\$ 4.98	3 bags		
\$ 3.75	3 bags		\$ 11.25
\$ 1.91	2 per stand	\$3.82 set	\$ 3.82
\$ 31.57	16 pieces each 12" x 16"	\$2.63 per piece	\$ 2.63
\$ 5.67	3 per		\$ 1.89
\$ 57.98	6 pieces each 12" x 16"	\$9.66 per piece	\$ 9.66
\$ 6.93			

\$ 40.62 per post
12 posts needed
Approx. \$ 487.44

Brian Cullen Millyard Bike/Pedal/Run course details:

Course Overview

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The course starts in Nashua's Millyard by the W.H. Bagshaw building, where participants will start the bike portion of the event. The ride goes through Hollis and returns to Nashua's Mill Pond by Conway Arena for Transition 1. Boaters go into the water there and head east along the canal to the Millyard, where they switch to the run at Transition 2. The run is entirely in Mine Falls Park, tracing the canal you just paddled down back towards Mill Pond before turning back on Spine Road – a rather overstated dirt track back to the start.

Course Maps

Unlike the usual clover-leaf triathlon setup, the BPR is comprised of three point-to-point sections that bring you full circle back to the start/finish line. Thus, this is going to take some thinking! Boats must be in place at the first Transition Zone no later than 8:30 for an individual racer and 9:15 for a team.

Bike: Beginning with a controlled parade start, bikers will be escorted through Nashua's downtown Main Street heading north to Amherst and Broad Streets. After crossing the Everitt Turnpike on Broad Street the clock starts. Racers will follow Broad Street out of the City and into bucolic Hollis, where after passing several major farms the course turns left through the heart of the village on Depot Road on long downhill to Route 111. Turning left, the course proceeds easterly back into Nashua before a final turn to Conway Arena and Mill Pond. All in, the bike is 15.1 miles, including a 12.5 mile competitive ride. The bike portion of the race is on paved roads.



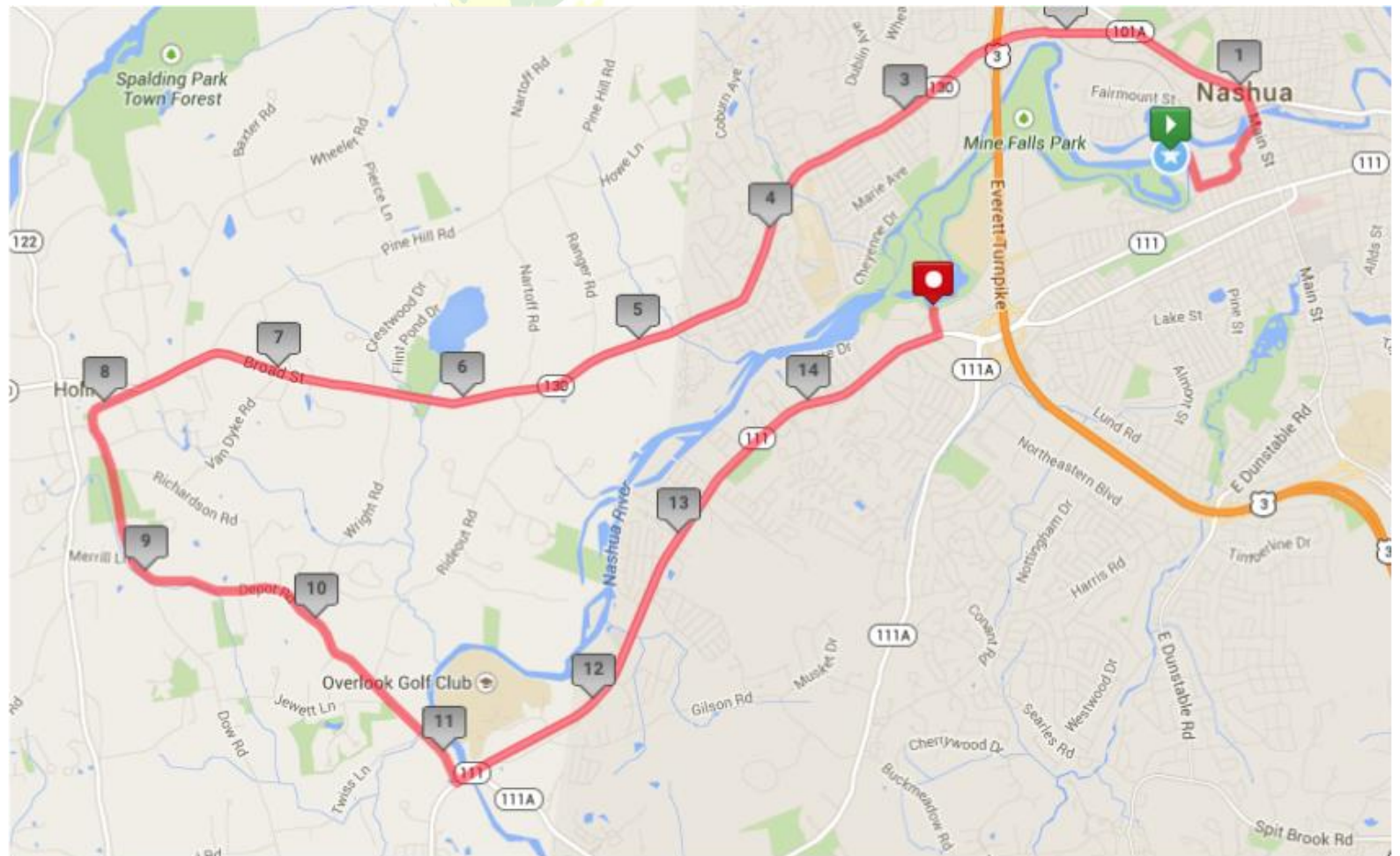
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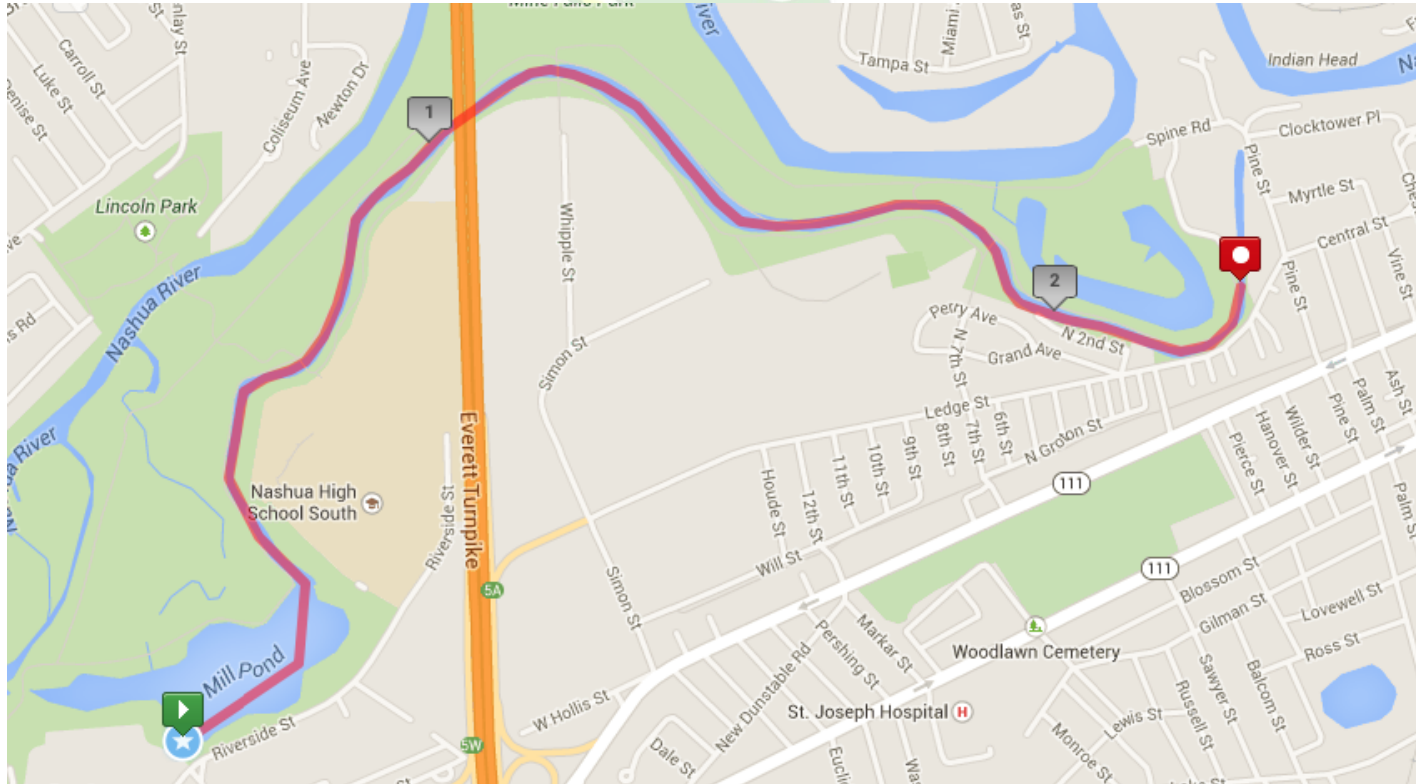
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Paddle: At Conway Arena bikers transition to boats, leaving their bikes in our secure lot, grabbing their boat, and hitting the water for the paddle portion of the race. The flat water, 2.5 mile course crosses the pond and runs the length of the canal to the take out back at the Millyard. There, you can leave your boat to our handlers and start the run!



MINE FALLS PARK
NASHUA, NH

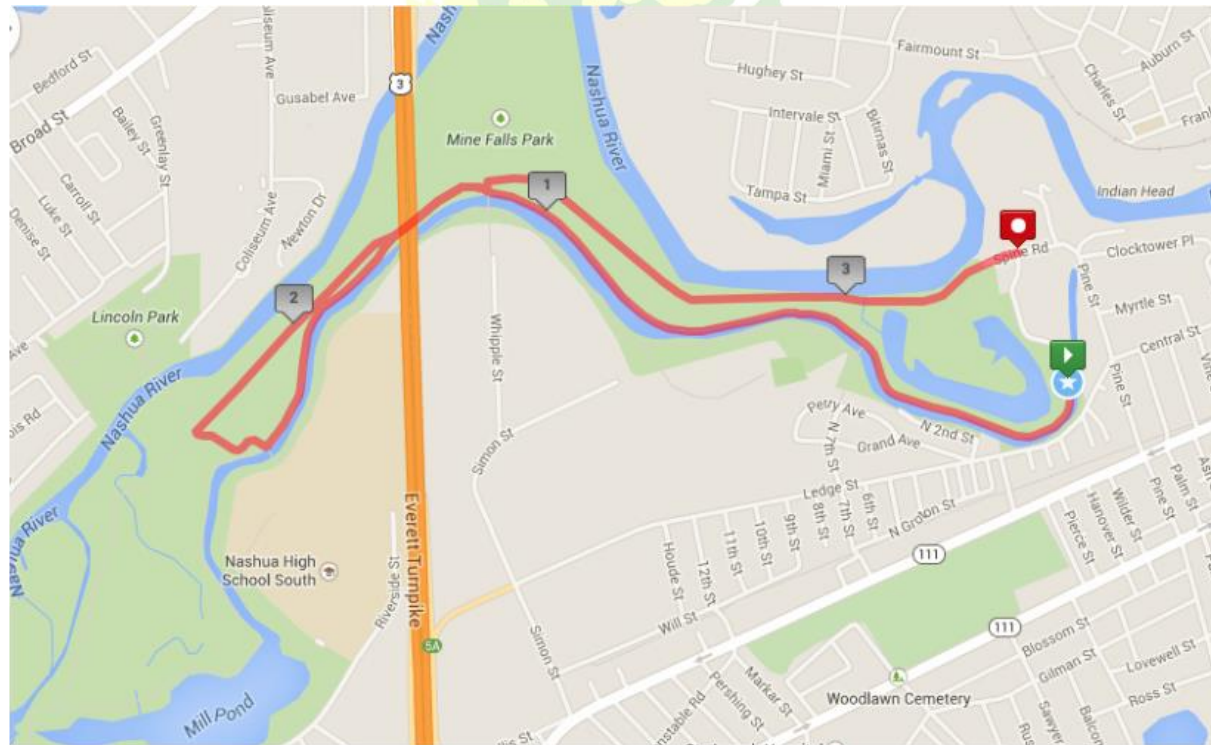
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Run: Turning back along the canal, the run follows the unpaved canal tow path approximately 1.5 miles before circling back to a wider, dirt path (Spine Road on the park map) that leads back to the Millyard. The relatively flat run finishes with a sharply pitched incline to the finish for a full 5K. The run portion of the race is on dirt/gravel paths.



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NASHUA, NH

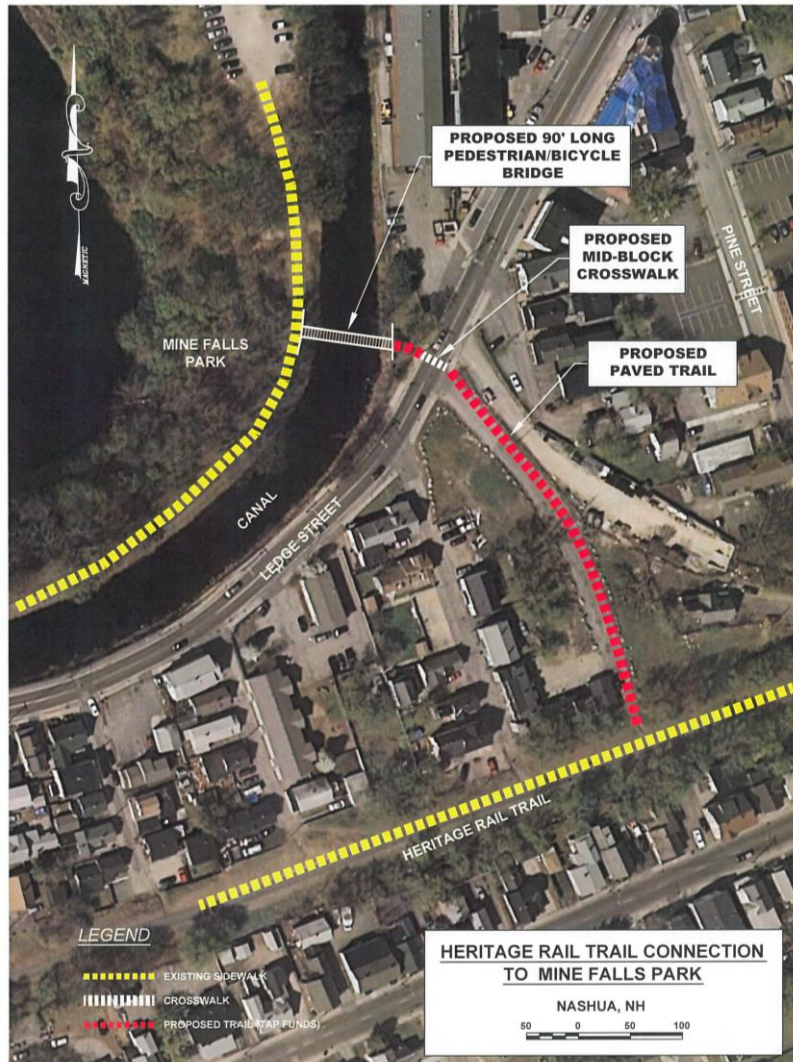
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Sara Marchant, Community Development:



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